## United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 29, 2006

The President The White House 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue Washington, D.C.

Dear President Bush:

We request that you declare on an expedited basis a major disaster for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, based upon severe storms and flooding in thirty-four out of sixty-seven counties. This expedited declaration is vital to help Pennsylvania flood victims repair their personal property and for local governments to begin the process of repairing damaged infrastructure.

Due to significant rain events over the past weekend and continuing into this week, most of central and eastern Pennsylvania were ravaged by overflowing of the Delaware, Schuylkill and Susquehanna Rivers and their tributaries. We are informed by Pennsylvania Governor Edward Rendell that he has requested you declare on an expedited basis a major disaster for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This represents actual damage already reported and anticipated damage as river systems may crest above flood stage within the identified counties. It is also our understanding that water and ice cannot be distributed by the Federal Emergency Management Agency until a Presidential declaration is made.

We thank you for your expedited consideration.

Sincerely,

Arlen Specter

United States Senate

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